Sandy Brook

Watershed Summary

Watershed Description and Maps

The Sandy Brook watershed covers an area of approximately 24,774 acres in northwestern Connecticut (Figure 1). There are five municipalities in Connecticut located in the watershed, including Norfolk, Colebrook, Hartland, Barkhamsted, and Winchester. The northern portion of the watershed extends into Sandisfield, Massachusetts.

The Sandy Brook watershed includes one segment impaired for recreation due to elevated bacteria levels (CT4304-00_01a). This segment was previously mislabeled as the Still River (Segment 1) (CT4303-00_01). The segment was assessed by Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP) and included in the CT 2010 303(d) list of impaired waterbodies. Some segments in the watershed are currently unassessed as of the writing of this document. This does not suggest that there are no issues on these segments, but indicates a lack of current data to evaluate the segments as part of the assessment process. An excerpt of the Integrated Water Quality Report is included in Table 1 to show the status of other waterbodies in the watershed (CTDEEP, 2010).

Sandy Brook begins in Massachusetts, flows southeasterly parallel to Route 183 into Colebrook, CT, continues through the Algonquin State Forest, and crosses Route 8. The impaired segment of Sandy Brook (CT4304-00_01a) begins at the confluence with the Still River in southeastern Colebrook, flows southeasterly into Barkhamsted parallel to Robertsville Road, and ends at the confluence with the Farmington River near Route 20 (Figures 2 ad 5).

The impaired segment of Sandy Brook has a water quality classification of B. Designated uses include habitat for fish and other aquatic life and wildlife, recreation, and industrial and agricultural water supply. This segment is impaired due to elevated bacteria concentrations, affecting the designated use of recreation. As there are no designated beaches in this segment of Sandy Brook, the specific recreation impairment is for non-designated swimming and other water contact related activities.

Impaired Segment Facts

Impaired Segment:
Sandy Brook (CT4304-00_01a)

Municipalities: Barkhamsted and Colebrook

Impaired Segment Length (miles):
1.35

Water Quality Classifications:
Class B

Designated Use Impairments:
Recreation

Sub-regional Basin Name and Code: Sandy Brook, 4304

Regional Basin: Farmington

Major Basin: Connecticut

Watershed Area (acres): 24,774

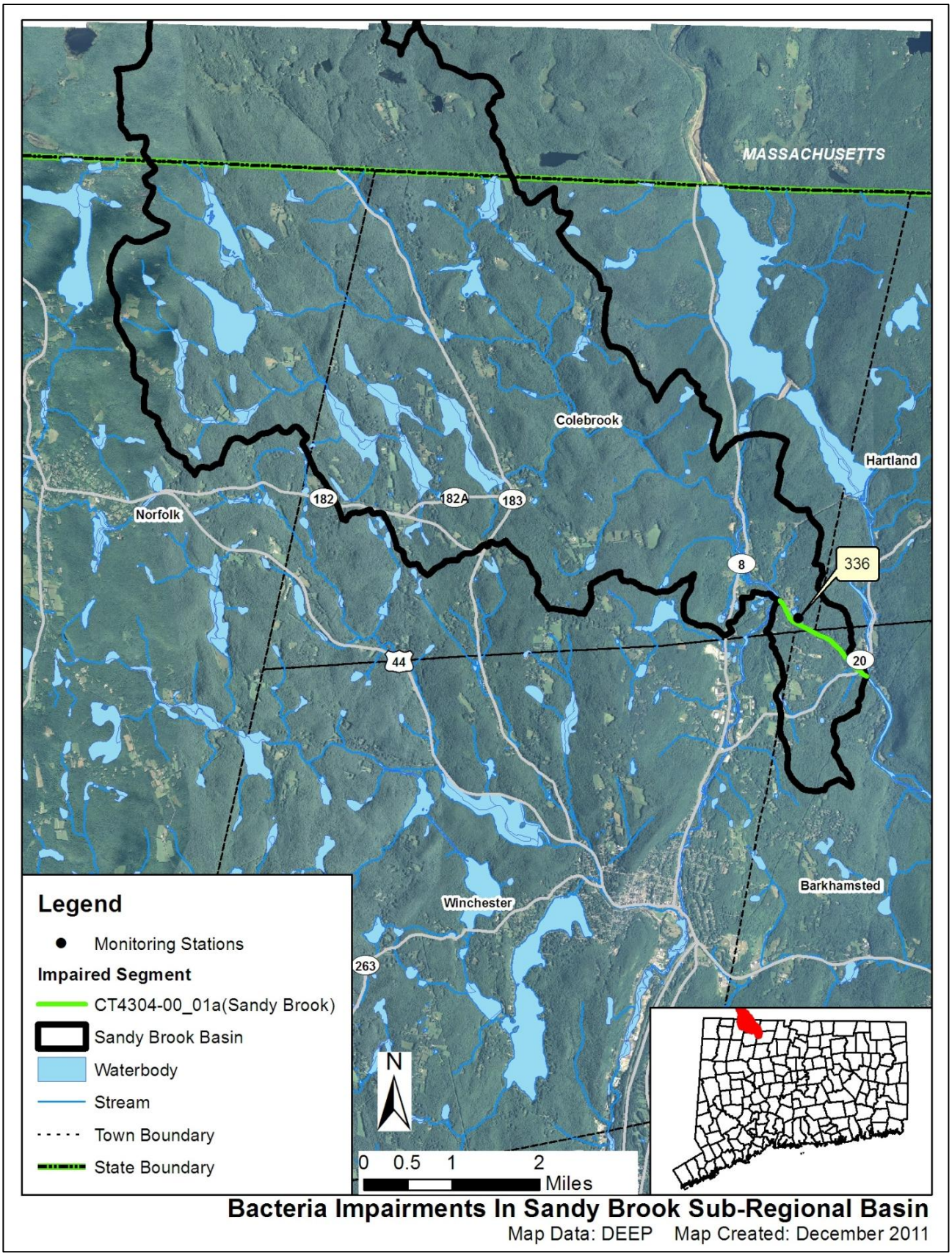
MS4 Applicable? No

Figure 1: Watershed location in

Table 1: Impaired segments and nearby waterbodies from the Connecticut 2010 Integrated Water Quality Report

Waterbody ID	Waterbody Name	Location	Miles	Aquatic Life	Recreation	Fish Consumption
CT4304-00_01	Sandy Brook (Colebrook)-01	From mouth at confluence with Still River (just DS of Old Forge Road crossing), Colebrook (Southeast), US to Massachusetts border, Norfolk (Northeast corner).	8.63	FULL	FULL	FULL
CT4304-00_01a	Sandy Brook (Barkhamsted/ Colebrook)-01a	From mouth at confluence with Farmington River, Barkhamsted, US to confluence with Still River, Colebrook. NOTE this portion was formerly called Still River-01 (CT4303-00_01).	1.35	FULL	NOT	FULL
Shaded cells indicate impaired segment addressed in this TMDL **FULL = Designated Use Fully Supported** **NOT = Designated Use Not Supported** **U = Unassessed**						

Figure 2: GIS map featuring general information of the Sandy Brook watershed at the sub-regional level



Land Use

Existing land use can affect the water quality of waterbodies within a watershed (USEPA, 2011c). Natural processes, such as soil infiltration of stormwater and plant uptake of water and nutrients, can occur in undeveloped portions of the watershed. As impervious surfaces (such as rooftops, roads, and sidewalks) increase within the watershed landscape from commercial, residential, and industrial development, the amount of stormwater runoff to waterbodies also increases. These waterbodies are negatively affected as increased pollutants from nutrients and bacteria from failing and insufficient septic systems, oil and grease from automobiles, and sediment from construction activities become entrained in this runoff. Agricultural land use activities, such as fertilizer application and manure from livestock, can also increase pollutants in nearby waterbodies (USEPA, 2011c).

As shown in Figures 3 and 4, the Sandy Brook watershed consists of 82% forest, 8% water, 6% urban, and 4% agriculture. The majority of the watershed is forested, particularly in the Algonquin State Forest in Colebrook. The area surrounding the impaired segment of Sandy Brook is predominately forested, though multiple agricultural operations are located adjacent to the brook on Robertsville Road and an urban area is located at Route 20 in Riverton near the end of the impaired segment (Figure 4).

Figure 3: Land use within the Sandy Brook watershed

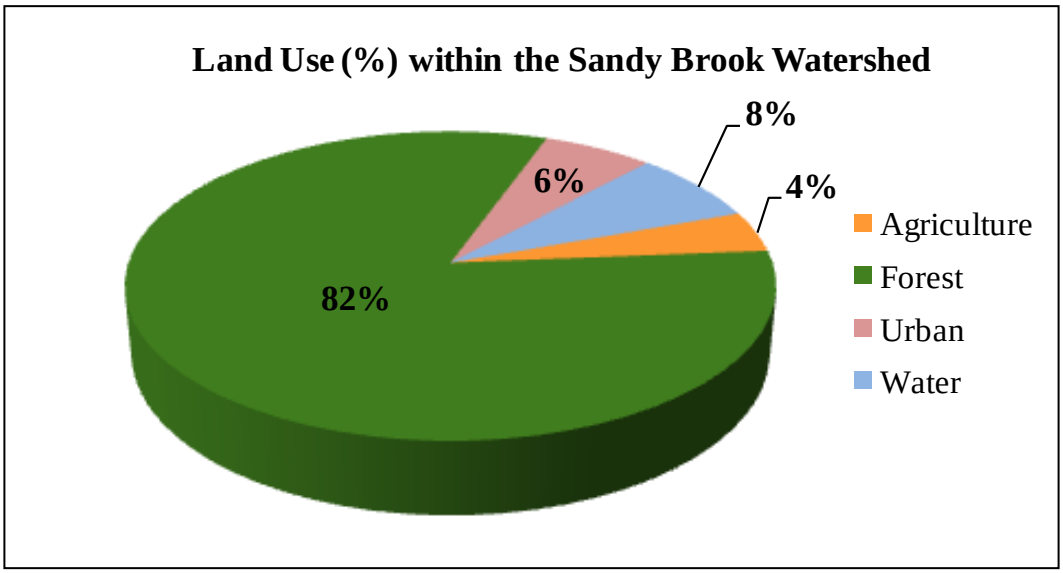
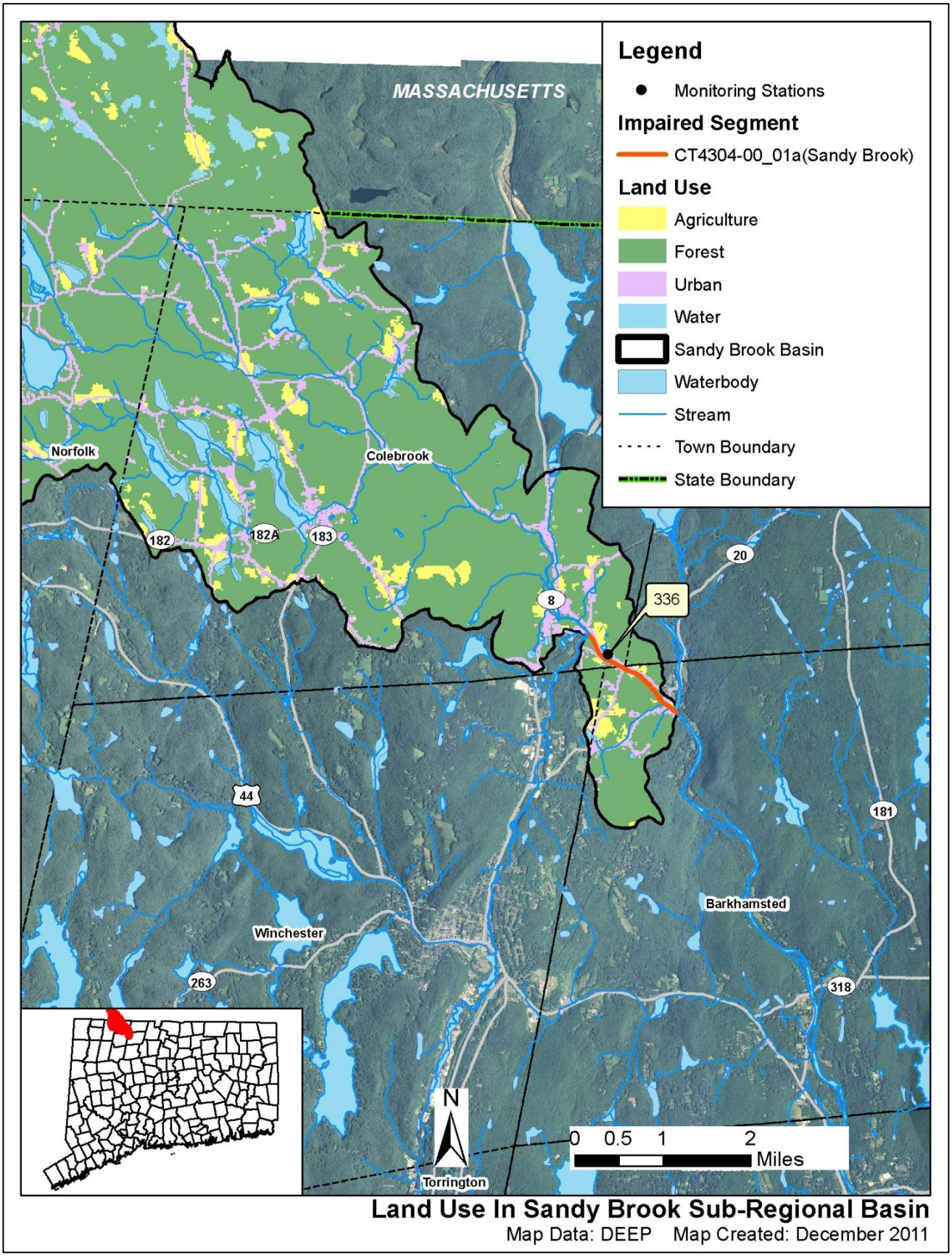


Figure 4: GIS map featuring land use for the Sandy Brook watershed at the sub-regional level



WHY IS A TMDL NEEDED?

E. coli is the indicator bacteria used for comparison with the CT State criteria in the CT Water Quality Standards (WQS) (CTDEEP, 2011). All data results are from CT DEEP, USGS, Bureau of Aquaculture, or volunteer monitoring efforts at stations located on the impaired segments.

Table 2: Sampling station location description for impaired segments in the Sandy Brook watershed

Waterbody ID	Waterbody Name	Station	Station Description	Municipality	Latitude	Longitude
CT4304-00_01a	Sandy Brook	336	USGS gage off Robertsville Road	Colebrook	41.968506	-73.033086

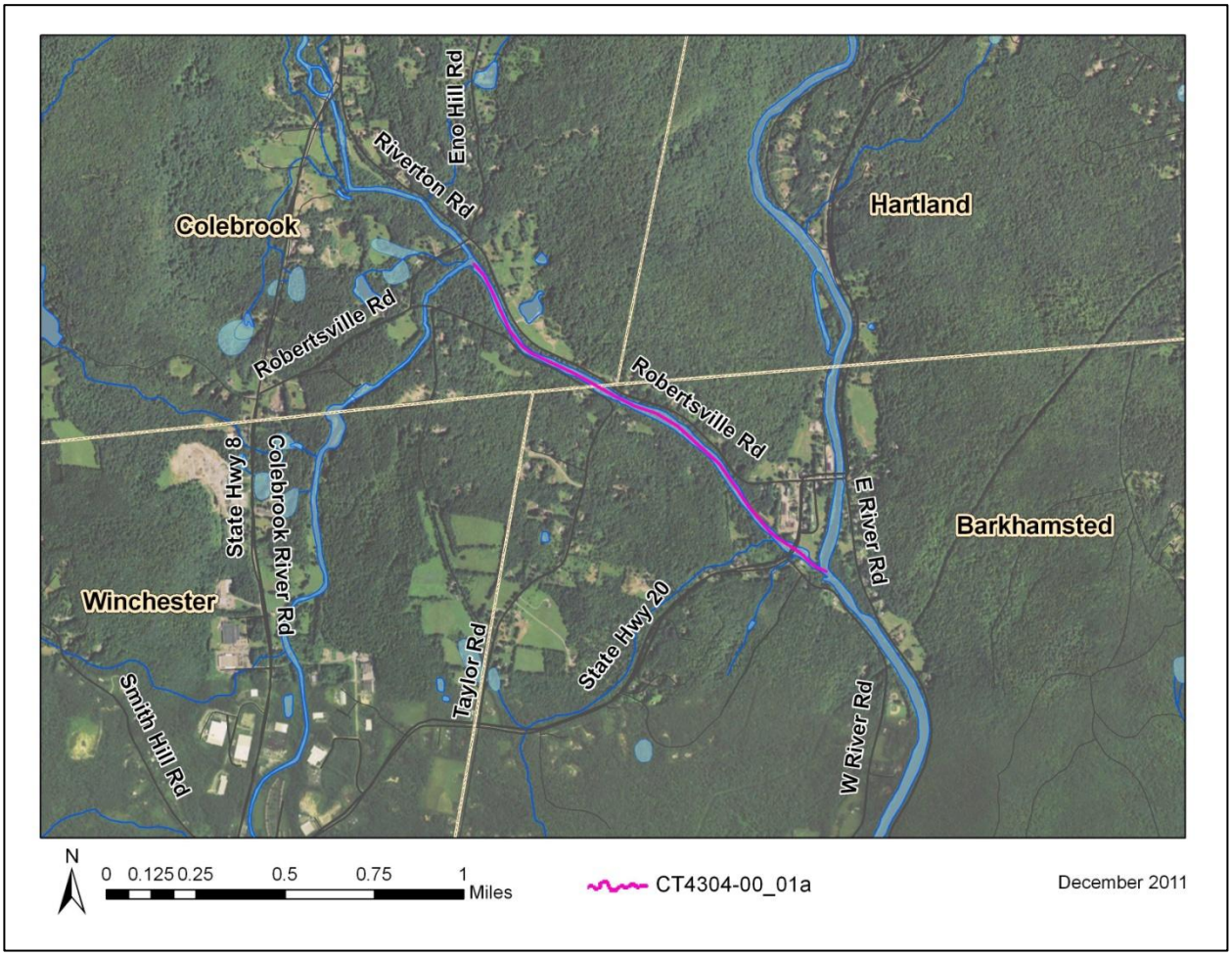
The impaired segment of Sandy Brook (CT4304-00_01a) is a Class B freshwater river (Figure 5). Its applicable designated uses are habitat for fish and other aquatic life and wildlife, recreation, and industrial and agricultural water supply. Water quality analyses were conducted using data from one sampling location (Station 336) located on Robertsville Road from 2006 – 2009 (Table 2).

The water quality criteria for *E. coli*, along with bacteria sampling results from 2006 and 2009, are presented in Table 6. The annual geometric mean exceeded the WQS for *E. coli* at Station 22 in 2008. Single sample values for this station exceeded the WQS for *E. coli* on multiple dates during the sampling period.

To aid in identifying possible bacteria sources, the geometric mean was also calculated at Station 336 for wet-weather and dry-weather sampling days (Table 6). The wet-weather geometric mean for the study period exceeded the WQS for *E. coli* at Station 336.

Due to the elevated bacteria measurements presented in Table 6, the impaired segment did not meet CT's bacteria WQS, was identified as impaired, and was placed on the CT List of Waterbodies Not Meeting Water Quality Standards, also known as the CT 303(d) Impaired Waters List. The Clean Water Act requires that all 303(d) listed waters undergo a TMDL assessment that describes the impairments and identifies the measures needed to restore water quality. The goal is for all waterbodies to comply with State WQS.

Figure 5: Aerial map of the impaired segment of Sandy Brook



POTENTIAL BACTERIA SOURCES

Potential sources of indicator bacteria in a watershed include point and non-point sources, such as stormwater runoff, agriculture, sanitary sewer overflows (collection system failures), illicit discharges, and inappropriate discharges to the waterbody. Potential sources that have been tentatively identified in the watershed based on land use (Figures 3 and 4) and a collection of local information for the impaired waterbody is presented in Table 3 and Figure 6. However, the list of potential sources is general in nature and should not be considered comprehensive. There may be other sources not listed here that contribute to the observed water quality impairment in the study segments. Further monitoring and investigation will confirm listed sources and discover additional ones. Some segments in this watershed are currently listed as unassessed by CT DEEP procedures. This does not suggest that there are no potential issues on this segment, but indicates a lack of current data to evaluate the segment as part of the assessment process. For some segments, there are data from permitted sources, and CT DEEP recommends that any elevated concentrations found from those permitted sources be addressed through voluntary reduction measures. More detailed evaluation of potential sources is expected to become available as activities are conducted to implement these TMDLs.

Table 3: Potential bacteria sources in the Sandy Brook watershed

Impaired Segment	Permit Source	Illicit Discharge	CSO/SSO Issue	Failing Septic System	Agricultural Activity	Stormwater Runoff	Nuisance Wildlife/Pets	Other
Sandy Brook CT4304-00_01a	x			x	x	x	x	x

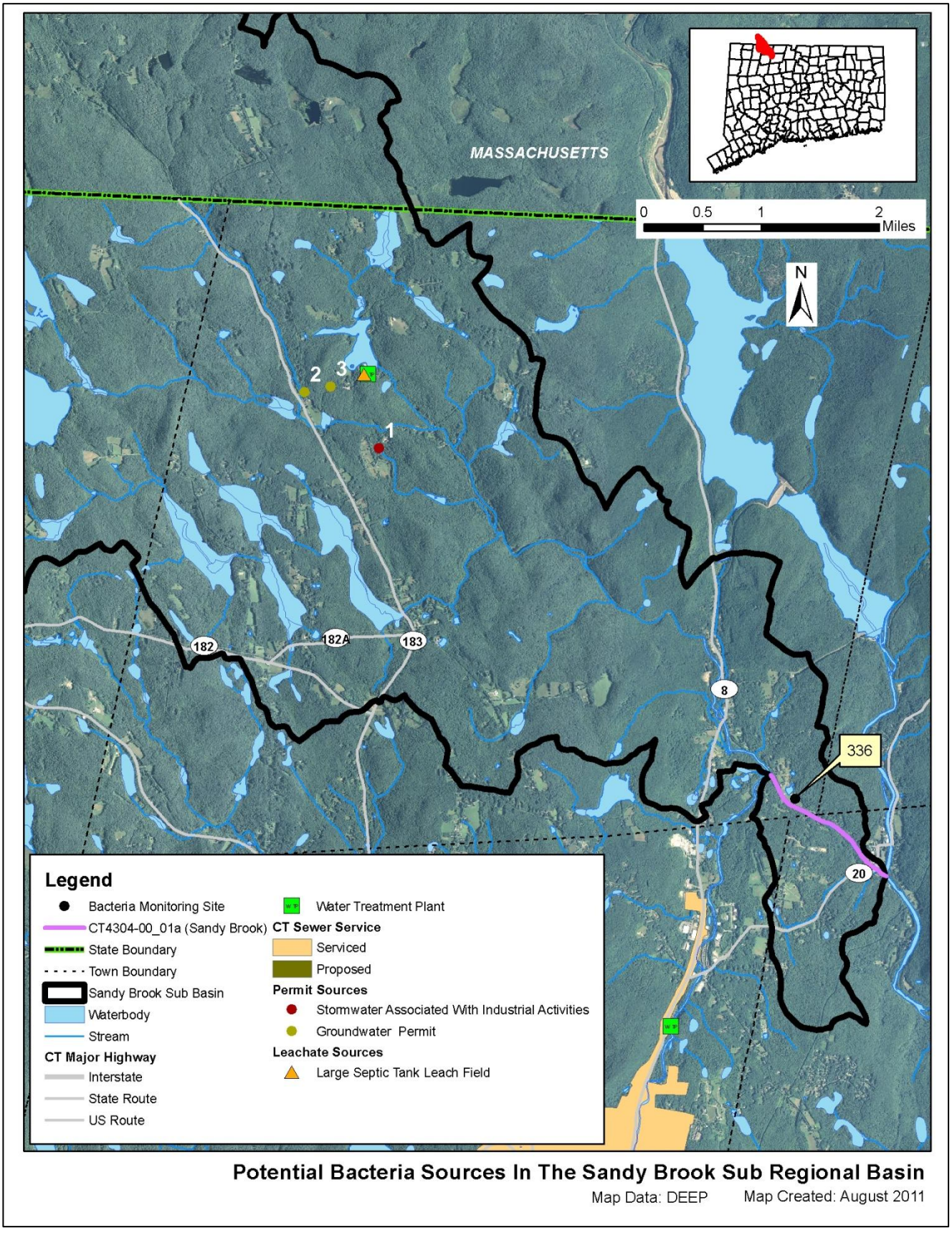
Point Sources

Permitted sources within the watershed that could potentially contribute to the bacteria loading are identified in Table 4. This table includes permit types that may or may not be present in the impaired watershed. A list of active permits in the watershed is included in Table 5. Additional investigation and monitoring may reveal the presence of additional discharges in the watershed.

Table 4: General categories list of other permitted discharges

Permit Code	Permit Description Type	Number in watershed
CT	Surface Water Discharges	0
GPL	Discharge of Swimming Pool Wastewater	0
GSC	Stormwater Discharge Associated with Commercial Activity	0
GSI	Stormwater Associated with Industrial Activity	1
GSM	Part B Municipal Stormwater MS4	0
GSN	Stormwater Registration – Construction	0
LF	Groundwater Permit (Landfill)	0
UI	Underground Injection	2

Figure 6: Potential sources in the Sandy Brook watershed at the sub-regional level



The potential sources map for the impaired basin was developed after thorough analysis of available data sets. If information is not displayed in the map, then no sources were discovered during the analysis. The following is the list of potential sources that were evaluated: problems with migratory waterfowl, golf course locations, reservoirs, proposed and existing sewer service, cattle farms, poultry farms, permitted sources of bacteria loading (surface water discharge, MS4 permit, industrial stormwater, commercial stormwater, groundwater permits, and construction related stormwater), and leachate and discharge sources (agricultural waste, CSOs, failing septic systems, landfills, large septic tank leach fields, septage lagoons, sewage treatment plants, and water treatment or filter backwash).

Permitted Sources

As shown in Table 5, there are three permitted discharges in the Sandy Brook watershed. Bacteria data are not currently available for any of the permitted discharges in the watershed. Since the MS4 permits are not targeted to a specific location, but the geographic area of the regulated municipality, there is no one accurate location on the map to display the location of these permits. One dot will be displayed at the geographic center of the municipality as a reference point. Sometimes this location falls outside of the targeted watershed and therefore the MS4 permit will not be displayed in the Potential Sources Map. Using the municipal border as a guideline will show which areas of an affected watershed are covered by an MS4 permit.

Table 5: Permitted facilities within the Sandy Brook watershed

Town	Client	Permit ID	Permit Type	Site Name/Address	Map #
Colebrook	YMCA Of Metropolitan Hartford, Inc.	UI0000325	Groundwater Permit	YMCA Camp Jewell	2
Colebrook	YMCA Of Metropolitan Hartford, Inc.	UI0000325	Groundwater Permit	YMCA Camp Jewell	3
Colebrook	Town Of Colebrook	GSI001640	Stormwater Associated With Industrial Activities	Colebrook Town Garage	1

Municipal Stormwater Permitted Sources

Per the EPA Phase II Stormwater rule all municipal storm sewer systems (MS4s) operators located within US Census Bureau Urbanized Areas (UAs) must be covered under MS4 permits regulated by the appropriate State agency. There is an EPA waiver process that municipalities can apply for to not participate in the MS4 program. In Connecticut, EPA has granted such waivers to 19 municipalities. All participating municipalities within UAs in Connecticut are currently regulated under MS4 permits by CT DEEP staff in the MS4 program.

The US Census Bureau defines a UA as a densely settled area that has a census population of at least 50,000. A UA generally consists of a geographic core of block groups or blocks that exceeds the 50,000 people threshold and has a population density of at least 1,000 people per square mile. The UA will also include adjacent block groups and blocks with at least 500 people per square mile. A UA consists of all or

part of one or more incorporated places and/or census designated places, and may include additional territory outside of any place. (67 FR 11663)

For the 2000 Census a new geographic entity was created to supplement the UA blocks of land. This created a block known as an Urban Cluster (UC) and is slightly different than the UA. The definition of a UC is a densely settled area that has a census population of 2,500 to 49,999. A UC generally consists of a geographic core of block groups or blocks that have a population density of at least 1,000 people per square mile, and adjacent block groups and blocks with at least 500 people per square mile. A UC consists of all or part of one or more incorporated places and/or census designated places; such a place(s) together with adjacent territory; or territory outside of any place. The major difference is the total population cap of 49,999 people for a UC compared to >50,000 people for a UA. (67 FR 11663)

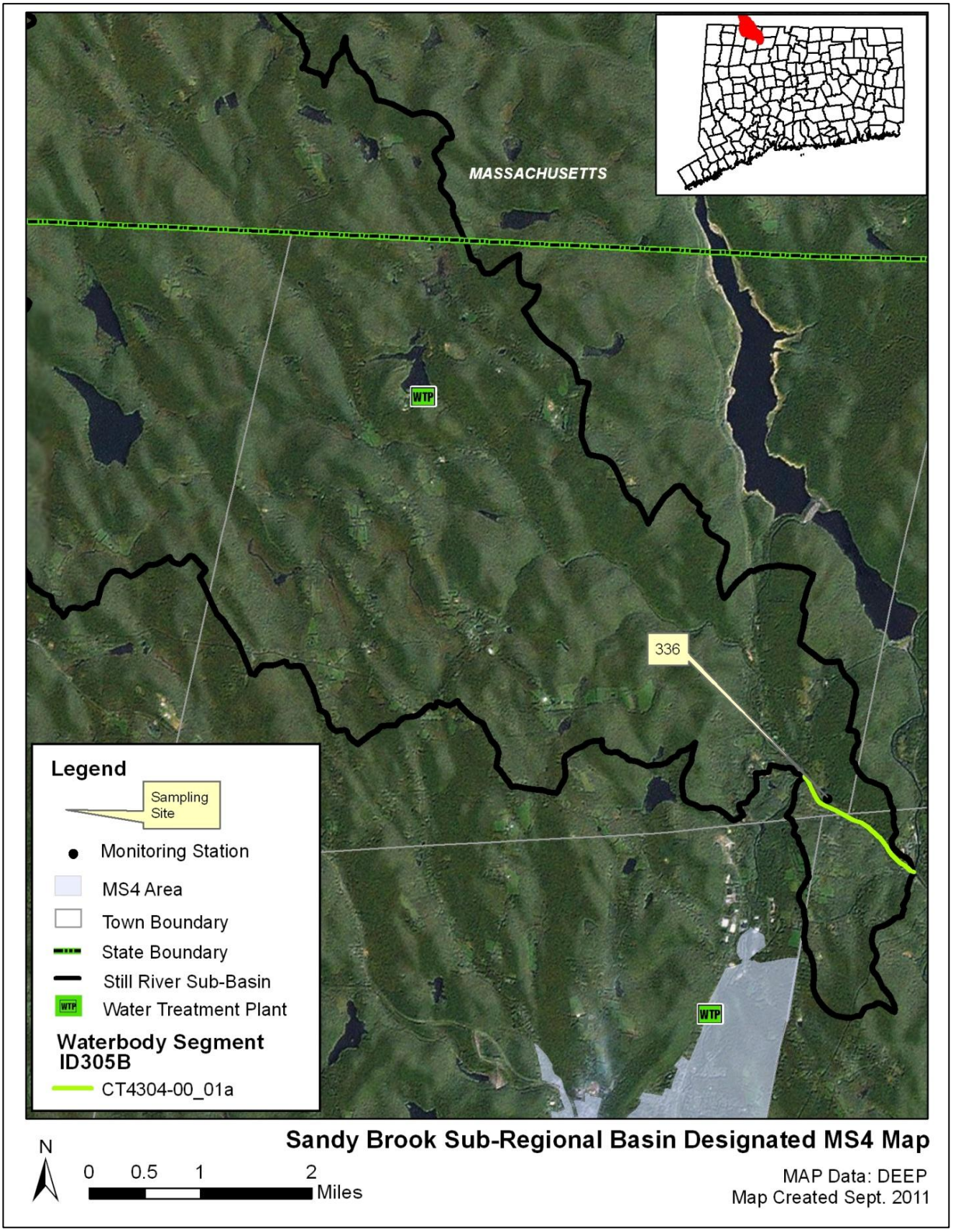
While it is possible that CT DEEP will be expanding the reach of the MS4 program to include UC municipalities in the near future they are not currently under the permit. However, the GIS layers used to create the MS4 maps in this Statewide TMDL did include both UA and UC blocks. This factor creates some municipalities that appear to be within an MS4 program that are not currently regulated through an MS4 permit. This oversight can explain a municipality that is at least partially shaded grey in the maps and there are no active MS4 reporting materials or information included in the appropriate appendix. While these areas are not technically in the MS4 permit program, they are still considered urban by the cluster definition above and are likely to contribute similar stormwater discharges to affected waterbodies covered in this TMDL.

As previously noted, EPA can grant a waiver to a municipality to preclude their inclusion in the MS4 permit program. One reason a waiver could be granted is a municipality with a total population less than 1000 people, even if the municipality was located in a UA. There are 19 municipalities in Connecticut that have received waivers, this list is: Andover, Bozrah, Canterbury, Coventry, East Hampton, Franklin, Haddam, Killingworth, Litchfield, Lyme, New Hartford, Plainfield, Preston, Salem, Sherman, Sprague, Stafford, Washington, and Woodstock. There will be no MS4 reporting documents from these towns even if they are displayed in an MS4 area in the maps of this document.

The list of US Census UCs is defined by geographic regions and is named for those regions, not necessarily by following municipal borders. In Connecticut the list of UCs includes blocks in the following Census Bureau regions: Colchester, Danielson, Lake Pocotopaug, Plainfield, Stafford, Storrs, Torrington, Willimantic, Winsted, and the border area with Westerly, RI (67 FR 11663). Any MS4 maps showing these municipalities may show grey areas that are not currently regulated by the CT DEEP MS4 permit program.

The impaired segment of the Sandy Brook watershed is located within the Towns of Colebrook and Barkhamsted. As there are no urbanized locations, as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau within this area, the towns are not required to comply with the General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater from Small Municipal Storm Sewer Systems (MS4 permit) issued by the CT DEEP (Figure 7). Information regarding stormwater management and the MS4 permit can be obtained on CTDEEP's website (http://www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?a=2721&q=325702&depNav_GID=1654).

Figure 7: MS4 areas of the Sandy Brook watershed



Publicly Owned Treatment Works

As shown in Figure 7, there is one publicly owned treatment works (POTWs), or wastewater treatment plant, in the Sandy Brook watershed. The POTW is located in the northwestern portion of the watershed near Lake Triangle, upstream of the impaired segment. Bacteria data from the discharge of this POTW is not currently available.

Non-point Sources

Non-point source pollution (NPS) comes from many diffuse sources and is more difficult to identify and control. NPS pollution is often associated with land-use practices. Examples of NPS that can contribute bacteria to surface waters include insufficient septic systems, pet and wildlife waste, agriculture, and contact recreation (swimming or wading). Potential sources of NPS within the Sandy Brook watershed are described below.

Wildlife and Domestic Animal Waste

Wildlife and domestic animals within the Sandy Brook watershed represent a potential source of bacteria. Portions of the Algonquin State Forest and a 540-acre YMCA camp are located in the northern portion of the watershed upstream of the impaired segment. Geese and other waterfowl are known to congregate in open areas including recreational fields, agricultural cropfields, and golf courses. In addition to creating a nuisance, large numbers of geese can also create unsanitary conditions on the grassed areas and cause water quality problems due to bacterial contamination associated with their droppings. Large populations of geese can also lead to habitat destruction as a result of overgrazing on wetland and riparian plants. With the construction of roads and drainage systems, wildlife waste may no longer be retained on the landscape, but instead may be conveyed via stormwater to the nearest surface water. These physical land alterations can exacerbate the impact of natural sources on water quality (USEPA, 2001). The watershed also has residential development where waste from domestic animals, such as these dogs, may also be contributing to bacteria concentrations in Sandy Brook.

Agricultural Activities

Agricultural operations are an important economic activity and landscape feature in many areas of the State. Runoff from agricultural fields may contain pollutants such as bacteria and nutrients (USEPA, 2011a). This runoff can include pollutants from farm practices such as storing manure, allowing livestock to wade in nearby waterbodies, applying fertilizer, and reducing the width of vegetated buffer along the shoreline. Though agricultural land use makes up only 4% of the Sandy Brook watershed, many of these operations are located along the impaired segment of Sandy Brook, just upstream of the sampling station.

High geometric means during wet-weather may indicate that pollutants in stormwater runoff are contributing to the bacterial impairment in a river segment. Stormwater may include runoff from agricultural fields that contain high bacteria concentrations from manure piles or fertilizer. As shown in Table 6, the geometric mean for wet weather exceeded the WQS at Station 336 on Sandy Brook. The area just upstream of Station 336 has multiple agricultural operations on Robertsville Road (Figure 4).

Insufficient Septic Systems

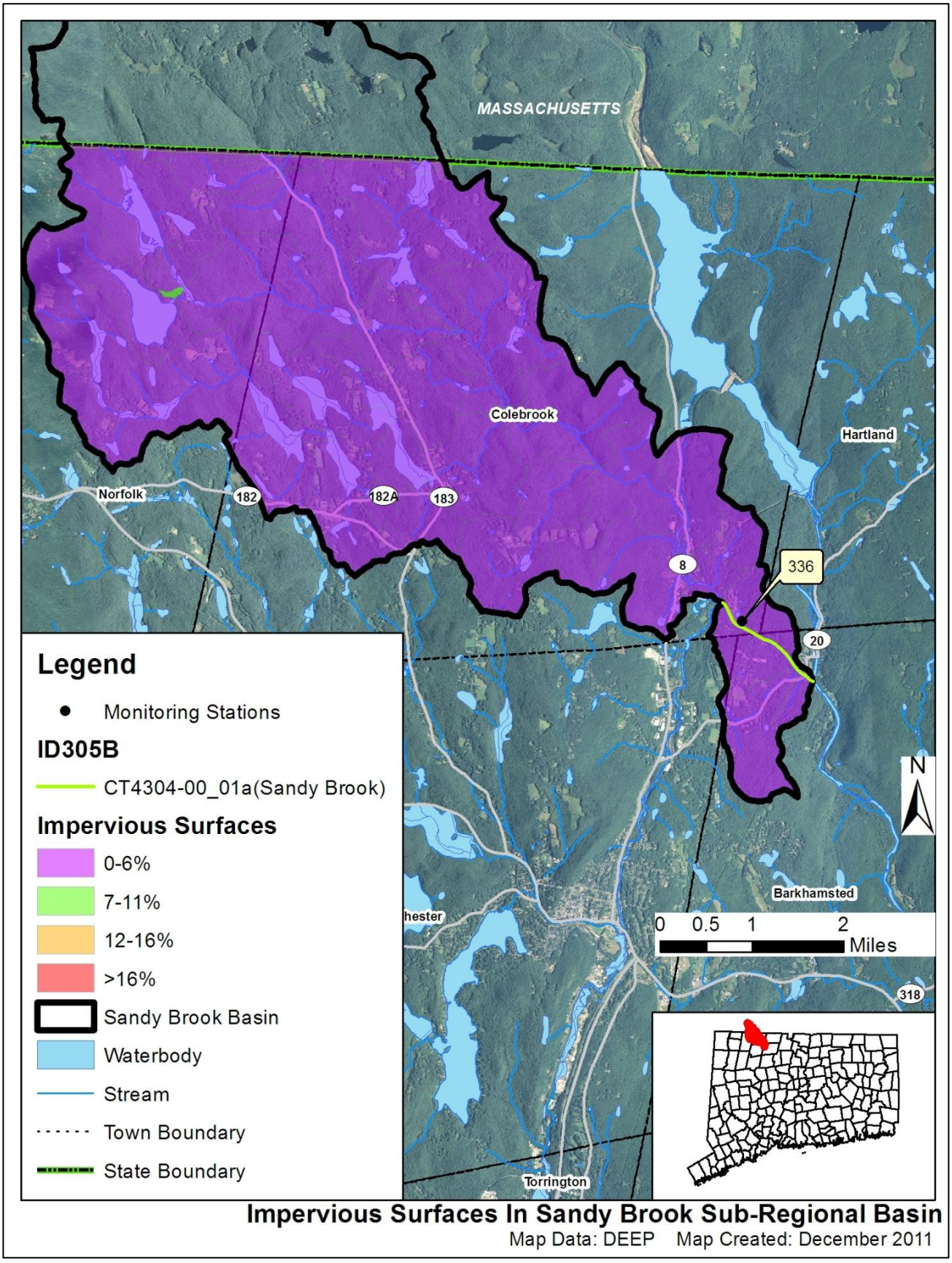
As shown in Figure 6, all residents in the Sandy Brook watershed rely on onsite wastewater treatment systems, such as septic systems. Properly managed septic systems and leach fields have the ability to effectively remove bacteria from waste. If systems are not maintained, waste will not be adequately treated and may result in bacteria reaching nearby surface and ground water. A large septic tank/leach field was identified in the northern portion of the watershed near the POTW by Lake Triangle. If this septic system is not maintained properly, it may contribute bacteria to the upstream segment of Sandy Brook. In Connecticut, local health directors or health districts are responsible for keeping track of any reported insufficient or failing septic systems in a specific municipality. The Towns of Colebrook and Barkhamsted do not have health directors, but are part of the Farmington Valley Health District (http://www.fvhd.org/).

Stormwater Runoff from Developed Areas

Approximately 6% of the Sandy Brook watershed is developed (Figure 3). Urban areas are often characterized by impervious cover, or surface areas such as roofs and roads that force water to run off land surfaces rather than infiltrate into the soil. Studies have shown a link between increasing impervious cover and degrading water quality conditions in a watershed (CWP, 2003). In one study, researchers correlated the amount of fecal coliform to the percent of impervious cover in a watershed (Mallin *et al.*, 2000).

The entire Sandy Brook watershed has less than 6% impervious surfaces (Figure 8). Though the watershed has a relatively small amount of impervious surfaces, stormwater runoff may still be contributing bacteria to the impaired segment of Sandy Brook. The town center of the Village of Riverton is located near the end of the impaired segment and is more developed than many of the upstream portions of the watershed (Figure 4).

Figure 8: Impervious cover (%) for the Sandy Brook sub-regional watershed



Additional Sources

Additional sources, including Camp Jewell, a 540-acre year-round residential YMCA camp, may also be contributing bacteria to the watershed. As shown in Table 7, the camp has two permits near a large septic tank/leach field and POTW (Figure 6). Bacteria data from any outfall associated with these permits is currently unavailable. There may be other sources not listed here or identified in Figure 6 that contribute to the observed water quality impairment in the Sandy Brook watershed. Further monitoring and investigation will confirm the listed sources and discover additional ones. More detailed evaluation of potential sources is expected to become available as activities are conducted to implement this TMDL.

Land Use/Landscape

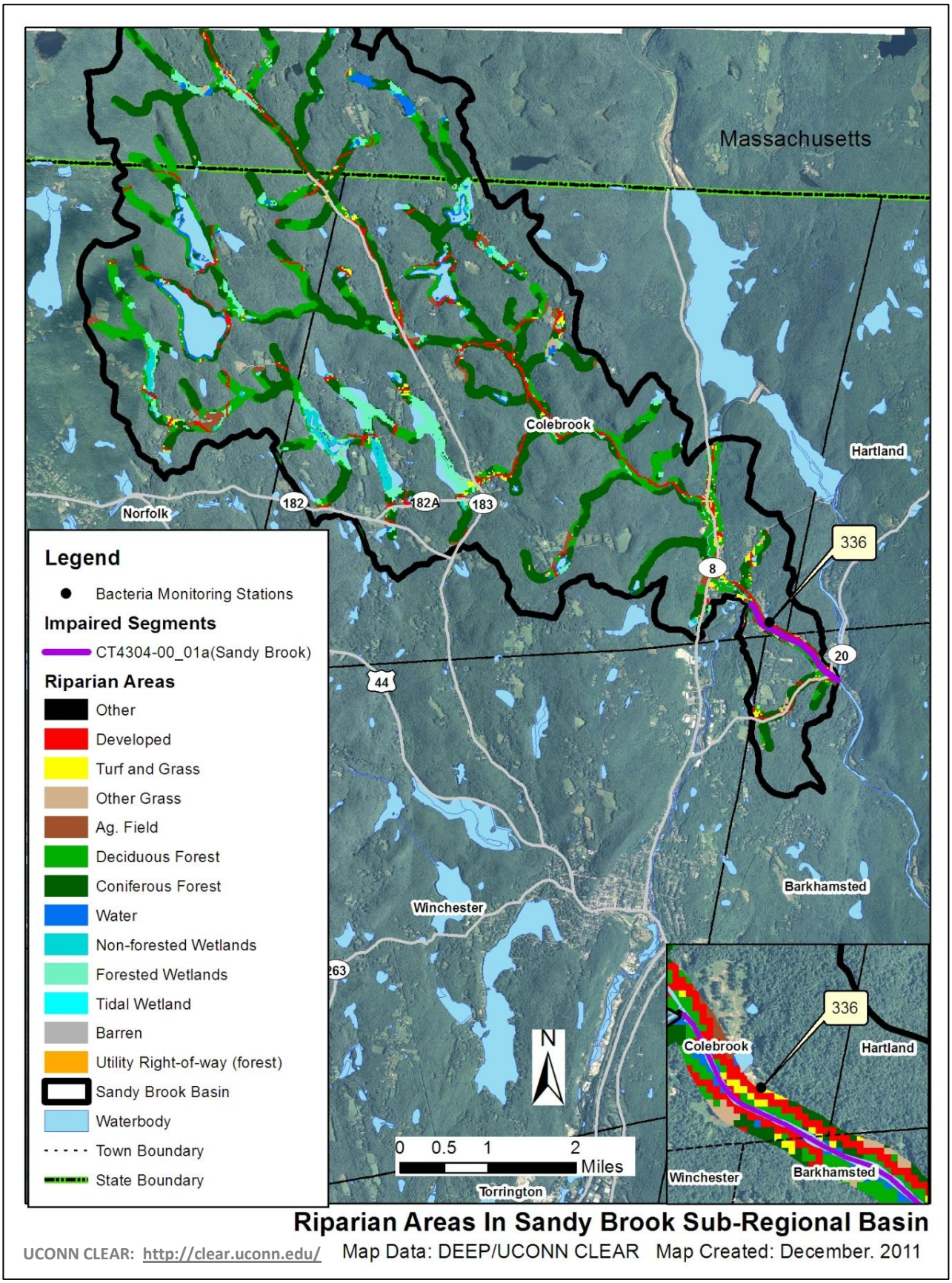
Riparian Buffer Zones

The riparian buffer zone is the area of land located immediately adjacent to streams, lakes, or other surface waters. The boundary of the riparian zone and the adjoining uplands is gradual and not always well-defined. However, riparian zones differ from uplands because of high levels of soil moisture, frequent flooding, and the unique assemblage of plant and animal communities found there. Through the interaction of their soils, hydrology, and vegetation, natural riparian areas influence water quality as contaminants are taken up into plant tissues, adsorbed onto soil particles, or modified by soil organisms. Any change to the natural riparian buffer zone can reduce the effectiveness of the natural buffer and has the potential to contribute to water quality impairment (USEPA, 2011b).

The CLEAR program at UCONN has created streamside buffer layers for the entire State of Connecticut (http://clear.uconn.edu/), which have been used in this TMDL. Analyzing this information can reveal potential sources and implementation opportunities at a localized level. The land use directly adjacent to a waterbody can have direct impacts on water quality from surface runoff sources.

The riparian zone for the impaired segment of Sandy Brook is characterized by a mix of agricultural, forested, and urban areas (Figure 9). As previously noted, runoff from agricultural fields may contain pollutants such as bacteria and nutrients. Developed areas within the riparian zone also contribute pollutants such as bacteria since the natural riparian buffer is not available to treat runoff.

Figure 9: Riparian buffer zone information for the Sandy Brook watershed



RECOMMENDED NEXT STEPS

Future mitigative activities are necessary to ensure the long-term protection of Sandy Brook and have been prioritized below.

1) Evaluate municipal programs regarding animal waste.

Any education and outreach program in the watershed should highlight the importance of not feeding waterfowl and wildlife and managing waste from horses, dogs, and other pets. The towns and residents can take measures to minimize waterfowl-related impacts such as allowing tall, coarse vegetation to grow in the riparian areas of the impaired segments that are frequented by waterfowl. Waterfowl, especially grazers like geese, prefer easy access to water. Maintaining an uncut vegetated buffer along the shore will make the habitat less desirable to geese and encourage migration. In addition, any educational program should emphasize that feeding waterfowl, such as ducks, geese, and swans, may contribute to water quality impairments in the Sandy Brook watershed and can harm human health and the environment.

Animal wastes should be disposed of away from any waterbody or storm drain system. BMPs effective at reducing the impact of animal waste on water quality include installing signage, providing pet waste receptacles in high-uses areas, enacting ordinances requiring the clean-up of pet waste, and targeting educational and outreach programs in problem areas.

2) Ensure there are sufficient buffers on agricultural lands in the Sandy Brook watershed.

If not already in place, agricultural producers should work with the CT Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service to develop conservation plans for their farming activities within the watershed. These plans should focus on ensuring that there are sufficient stream buffers, that fencing exists to restrict livestock and horse access to streams and wetlands, and that animal waste handling, disposal, and other appropriate Best Management Practices (BMPs) are in place. Particular attention should be paid to those agricultural operations located adjacent to the impaired segment of Sandy Brook.

3) Develop a system to monitor septic systems.

All residents of the Sandy Brook watershed rely on septic systems. If not already in place, all municipalities within the watershed should establish a program to ensure that existing septic systems are properly operated and maintained. For instance, communities can create an inventory of existing septic systems through mandatory inspections. Inspections help encourage proper maintenance and identify failed and sub-standard systems. Policies that govern the eventual replacement of the sub-standard systems within a reasonable timeframe could also be adopted. Municipalities can also develop programs to assist citizens with the replacement and repair of older and failing systems.

4) Identify areas in the Sandy Brook watershed to implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) to control stormwater runoff.

As noted previously, only 6% of the Sandy Brook watershed is considered urban and the municipalities within the watershed are not MS4 communities regulated by the MS4 program. Almost the entire watershed has an impervious cover of less than 6%. Though it is not likely the primary source of bacteria to Sandy Brook, stormwater runoff may be contributing bacteria to the impaired segment.

To identify specific areas to treat stormwater runoff, the watershed towns should identify areas along the brook to install BMPs that encourage stormwater to infiltrate into the ground before entering the waterbodies. These BMPs would disconnect impervious areas and reduce pollutant loads to the river. More detailed information and BMP recommendations can be found in the core TMDL document.

Towns that are not MS4 communities could also choose to adopt the 6 minimum measures required under the MS4 permit. Though not required, adopting these minimum measures would provide a framework for addressing areas of the watershed that may be contributing bacteria through stormwater runoff. The MS4 General Permit is required for any municipality with urbanized areas that initiates, creates, originates or maintains any discharge of stormwater from a storm sewer system to waters of the State. The MS4 permit requires towns to design a Stormwater Management Plan (SMP) to reduce the discharge of pollutants in stormwater to improve water quality. The plan must address the following 6 minimum measures:

1. Public Education and Outreach
2. Public Involvement/Participation
3. Illicit discharge detection and elimination
4. Construction site stormwater runoff control
5. Post-construction stormwater management in the new development and redevelopment
6. Pollution prevention/good housekeeping for municipal operations

5) Establish monitoring of permitted sources.

Monitoring will provide information essential to better locate, understand, and reduce pollution sources. If any current monitoring is not done with appropriate bacterial indicator based on the receiving water, then a recommended change during the next permit reissuance is to include the appropriate indicator species. If facility monitoring indicates elevated bacteria, then implementation of permit required, and voluntary measures to identify and reduce sources of bacterial contamination at the facility are an additional recommendation. Regular monitoring should be established for all permitted sources to ensure compliance with permit requirements and to determine if current requirements are adequate or if additional measures are necessary for water quality protection.

Section 6(k) of the MS4 General Permit requires a municipality to modify their Stormwater Management Plan to implement the TMDL within four months of TMDL approval by EPA if stormwater within the municipality contributes pollutant(s) in excess of the allocation established by the TMDL. For discharges to impaired waterbodies, the municipality must assess and modify the six minimum measures of its plan, if necessary, to meet TMDL standards. Particular focus should be placed on the following plan components: public education, illicit discharge detection and elimination, stormwater structures cleaning, and the repair, upgrade, or retrofit of storm sewer structures. The goal of these modifications is to establish a program that improves water quality consistent with TMDL requirements. Modifications to the Stormwater Management Plan in response to TMDL development should be submitted to the Stormwater Program of DEEP for review and approval.

Table 6 details the appropriate bacteria criteria for use as waste load allocations established by this TMDL for use as water quality targets by permittees as permits are renewed and updated, within the Sandy Brook watershed.

For any municipality subject to an MS4 permit and affected by a TMDL, the permit requires a modification of the SMP to include BMPs that address the included impairment. In the case of bacteria related impairments municipal BMPs could include: implementation or improvement to existing nuisance wildlife programs, septic system monitoring programs, any additional measures that can be added to the

required illicit discharge detection and elimination (IDDE) programs, and increased street sweeping above basic permit requirements. Any non-MS4 municipalities can implement these same types of initiatives in effort to reduce bacteria source loading to impaired waterways.

Any facilities that discharge non-MS4 regulated stormwater should update their Pollution Prevention Plan to reflect BMPs that can reduce bacteria loading to the receiving waterway. These BMPs could include nuisance wildlife control programs and any installations that increase surface infiltration to reduce overall stormwater volumes. Facilities that are regulated under the Commercial Activities Stormwater Permit should report any updates to their SMP in their summary documentation submitted to DEEP.

Table 6. Bacteria (e.coli) TMDLS, WLAs, and LAs for Recreational Use

		Instantaneous *E. coli* (#/100mL)						Geometric Mean *E. coli* (#/100mL)	
Class	**Bacteria Source**	**WLA[6]**			**LA[6]**			**WLA[6]**	**LA[6]**
	Recreational Use	**1**	**2**	**3**	**1**	**2**	**3**	**All**	**All**
B[4]	Non-Stormwater NPDES	235	410	576				126	
	CSOs	235	410	576				126	
	SSOs	0	0	0				0	
	Illicit sewer connection	0	0	0				0	
	Leaking sewer lines	0	0	0				0	
	Stormwater (MS4s)	235[7]	410[7]	576[7]				126[7]	
	Stormwater (non-MS4)				235[7]	410[7]	576[7]		126[7]
	Wildlife direct discharge				235[7]	410[7]	576[7]		126[7]
	Human or domestic animal direct discharge[5]				235	410	576		126

(1) **Designated Swimming.** Procedures for monitoring and closure of bathing areas by State and Local Health Authorities are specified in: Guidelines for Monitoring Bathing Waters and Closure Protocol, adopted jointly by the Department of Environmental Protections and the Department of Public Health. May 1989. Revised April 2003 and updated December 2008.

(2) **Non-Designated Swimming.** Includes areas otherwise suitable for swimming but which have not been designated by State or Local authorities as bathing areas, waters which support tubing, water skiing, or other recreational activities where full body contact is likely.

(3) **All Other Recreational Uses.**

(4) Criteria for the protection of recreational uses in Class B waters do not apply when disinfection of sewage treatment plant effluents is not required consistent with Standard 23. (Class B surface waters located north of Interstate Highway I-95 and downstream of a sewage treatment plant providing seasonal disinfection May 1 through October 1, as authorized by the Commissioner.)

(5) Human direct discharge = swimmers

(6) Unless otherwise required by statute or regulation, compliance with this TMDL will be based on ambient concentrations and not end-of-pipe bacteria concentrations

(7) Replace numeric value with “natural levels” if only source is naturally occurring wildlife. Natural is defined as the biological, chemical and physical conditions and communities that occur within the environment which are unaffected or minimally affected by human influences (CT DEEP 2011a). Sections 2.2.2 and 6.2.7 of this Core Document deal with BMPs and delineating type of wildlife inputs.

BACTERIA DATA AND PERCENT REDUCTIONS TO MEET THE TMDL

Table 7: Sandy Brook Bacteria Data

Waterbody ID: CT4304-00_01a

Characteristics: Freshwater, Class B, Habitat for Fish and other Aquatic Life and Wildlife, Recreation, and Industrial and Agricultural Water Supply

Impairment: Recreation (*E. coli bacteria)*

Water Quality Criteria for E. coli:

Geometric Mean: 126 colonies/100 mL

Single Sample: 410 colonies/100ml

Percent Reduction to meet TMDL:

Geometric Mean: **48%**

Single Sample: **85%**

Data: 2006-2009 from CT DEEP targeted sampling efforts, 2012 TMDL Cycle

Single sample *E. coli* data (colonies/100 mL) from Station 336 on Sandy Brook with annual geometric means calculated

Station Name	Station Location	Date	Results	Wet/Dry	Geomean
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	6/1/2006	63	dry	117
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	6/14/2006	240	dry	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	6/29/2006	410	wet	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	7/12/2006	220	dry	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	7/19/2006	42†	dry	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	7/26/2006	63	dry	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	8/2/2006	160	dry	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	8/9/2006	240	wet	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	8/14/2006	47†	dry	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	8/23/2006	75	dry	

Single sample *E. coli* data (colonies/100 mL) from Station 336 on Sandy Brook with annual geometric means calculated (continued)

Station Name	Station Location	Date	Results	Wet/Dry	Geomean
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	6/6/2007	230	wet	85
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	6/12/2007	97	dry	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	6/27/2007	85	dry	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	7/5/2007	510	wet	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	7/10/2007	51	dry	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	7/17/2007	30	wet	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	7/25/2007	110	wet	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	8/2/2007	63	dry	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	8/9/2007	370	wet	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	8/30/2007	10	dry	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	9/6/2007	10	dry	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	9/13/2007	400	wet	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	5/22/2008	98	wet	**240* (48%)**
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	6/5/2008	140	wet	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	6/9/2008	**2800* (85%)**	wet	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	6/19/2008	440	wet	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	6/26/2008	86	dry	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	7/8/2008	98	dry	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	7/23/2008	360	wet	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	7/31/2008	465†	wet	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	8/4/2008	170	wet	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	8/14/2008	180	dry	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	9/9/2008	210	wet	

Single sample *E. coli* data (colonies/100 mL) from Station 336 on Sandy Brook with annual geometric means calculated (continued)

Station Name	Station Location	Date	Results	Wet/Dry	Geomean
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	6/11/2009	52	wet	121
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	6/17/2009	110	wet	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	7/2/2009	1100	wet	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	7/9/2009	69[†]	dry	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	7/16/2009	120	dry	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	7/23/2009	170	wet	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	8/6/2009	97	dry	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	8/12/2009	52	dry	
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	8/19/2009	120	dry	

Shaded cells indicate an exceedance of water quality criteria

[†]Average of two duplicate samples

***Indicates single sample and geometric mean values used to calculate the percent reduction**

Wet and dry weather *E. coli* (colonies/100 mL) geometric mean values for Station 336 on Sandy Brook

Station Name	Station Location	Years Sampled	Number of Samples		Geometric Mean		
			Wet	Dry	All	Wet	Dry
336	Adjacent to USGS gauge off Robertsville Road	2006-2009	21	25	123	253	67

Shaded cells indicate an exceedance of water quality criteria

Weather condition determined from rain gage at the Norfolk 2 SW in Norfolk, CT

REFERENCES

Costa, Joe (2011). Calculating Geometric Means. Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program. **Online**: http://www.buzzardsbay.org/geomean.htm

CTDEEP (2010). State of Connecticut Integrated Water Quality Report. **Online:** http://www.ct.gov/dep/lib/dep/water/water_quality_management/305b/ctiwqr10final.pdf

CTDEEP (2011). State of Connecticut Water Quality Standards. **Online:** http://www.ct.gov/dep/lib/dep/water/water_quality_standards/wqs_final_adopted_2_25_11.pdf

CWP (2003). Impacts of Impervious Cover on Aquatic Systems. Center for Watershed Protection. **Online**: http://clear.uconn.edu/projects/tmdl/library/papers/Schueler_2003.pdf

Federal Register 67 (March 15, 2002) 11663-11670. Urban Area Criteria for Census 2000.

Mallin, M.A., K.E. Williams, E.C. Escham, R.P. Lowe (2000). Effect of Human Development on Bacteriological Water Quality in Coastal Wetlands. Ecological Applications 10: 1047-1056.

USEPA (2001). Managing Pet and Wildlife Waste to Prevent Contamination of Drinking Water. **Online**: http://www.epa.gov/safewater/sourcewater/pubs/fs_swpp_petwaste.pdf.

USEPA (2011a). Managing Nonpoint Source Pollution from Agriculture. **Online:** http://water.epa.gov/polwaste/nps/outreach/point6.cfm

USEPA (2011b). Riparian Zone and Stream Restoration. **Online:** http://epa.gov/ada/eco/riparian.html

USEPA (2011c). Land Use Impacts on Water. **Online:** http://epa.gov/greenkit/toolwq.htm